

**RE: H.B. No. 5251, An Act Concerning Medicaid**

**Representative Abercrombie, Members of the Human Services Committee:**

**My name is Kathleen Hanson, I live in Meriden, and I am one of your constituents who is fearful of the drastic cuts being considered by our Governor in the healthcare field.**

**When I started in my field, patients receiving a diagnosis of cancer meant a death sentence. This is no longer true. I have seen great strides in medicine, specifically the early diagnosis of cancer, hence, managing the disease at the earliest stage. With today's state of the art imaging technology, the expertise of the doctors reading these exams and the technologists who perform them, many of the patients have learned their cancer is in remission. The stumbling blocks for many that had a preexisting condition or didn't have insurance were removed when Obamacare came about. It was to be a good thing, but now, as the governor is taking his scissors and cutting from the doctors who perform and read these important tests, putting reimbursements below the cost of doing the job, the reality is just the opposite, offices will close and healthcare professionals will face layoffs. It is time that the Governor realizes that he is cutting into the welfare of many... the Medicaid (low income) patient will have insurance, but no place to go to have their testing done in a timely manner. They will either delay the exam, have to go to a hospital where costs are much higher or will not have these very important exams. These cuts will hurt the many dedicated employees who will face layoffs which I am one of those who will not have many opportunities to find a new job. These severe cuts will have a devastating effect on the residents of Connecticut. My employer has cut in every area possible to reduce our costs, but the reality is there is no more fat to cut without sacrificing the care to our patients. Please seriously analyze these cuts, before enacting them.**

**Thank you for the time to express my concerns, and I hope my opinion will be considered when making your recommendations to the Governor.**